

THE Romulus News

MARCH 9, 2001 – MARCH 22, 2001

"the little paper"

VOLUME 14 NUMBER 16

Timely Tidbits ...

Spaghetti Dinner Benefits Spicer

A Spaghetti Dinner fund-raiser for Shannon Spicer – a local fourth-grader who is currently being treated for leukemia – will be held at the local VFW Hall (39270 Huron River Drive, Romulus) on Saturday, March 10, from 12 to 7 p.m. Advance tickets (\$6 for adults; \$4 for children) are available at all Romulus schools and some local businesses.

For more information, contact Jackie Beline (734-941-3671) or Bill Baum (734-941-0536).

Craft Show At RHS

Romulus High School's Class of 2002 invites the public to attend its annual craft show, which will be held in the school cafeteria from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 10. Besides an enormous variety of craft items for sale, attractions will include a chance for youngsters to visit with the Easter Bunny, as well as "make & take" craft projects for kids, bake-sale "goodies," and concession food.

Students are hoping for plenty of community support at the event, which is a fund-raiser for senior-class projects.

Alumni Chili Cook-off

The Romulus High School Alumni Association's annual (interrupted) Chili Cook-off – open to the public – will be held at the High School on Friday, March 16, in Room 507. All participants need to register their entries no later than 6:30 p.m.

For more information, call Don Morris at 734-941-1600, ext. 228.

Dance Benefits Club

A St. Patrick's Day Dance – to be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall (35100 Van Born, east of Wayne) on Saturday, March 17, beginning at 7 p.m. – will benefit the Romulus chapter of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeastern Michigan.

Tickets are \$25 per person (adults only). Call 734-941-5839.

State Issues EDS Permit; Lawsuit May Follow

By Kristi Stephens

Now that the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has given Environmental Disposal Systems (EDS) its final approval for the construction of a hazardous-waste treatment, storage, and disposal facility on Citrin Drive in Romulus, an entirely new round of lawsuits may be in the works.

"We have genuine concerns about whether the DEQ followed proper procedure in issuing this permit ... and we are probably going to challenge the permit in Circuit Court," said Taylor Mayor Gregory Pitoniak, whose city has entered into an "inter-local agreement" with Wayne County and the City of Romulus to investigate possible means of preventing the construction of the EDS facility.

Mayor William M. Oakley – who, along with Councilwoman Debbie Romak, represents Romulus on the inter-local board – has indicated that he may support a challenge to the permit.

"I believe that local government

should have control over these types of decisions, and I resent the State's attempt to shove this facility down our throats," Oakley stated.

The Romulus City Council seems prepared to support further litigation, as well. On Monday, March 5, Council voted unanimously to authorize the spending of up to \$8,333 for attorney fees (to be matched by Taylor and Wayne County, for a total of \$25,000). The vote was applauded by anti-well activists, but others were angered by it.

"We've already spent more than a million dollars to fight a company that poses less of an environmental risk than several others that have been operating in our community, unnoticed and unmolested, for years," said Nina Trump, a Romulus resident who has lived in the city for most of her life. "We've gone all the way to the Supreme Court, only to be told what our own city attorney told us before this mess ever started: State law preempts local control of these facilities. I'm tired of having my tax money



Romulus Mayor William Oakley

wasted by politicians who are trying to make a name for themselves – and so are a lot of other voters just like me," she added. □

DEQ Defends Decision To Issue EDS Permit

By Kristi Stephens

Taylor Mayor Gregory Pitoniak may have "genuine concerns" about whether the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) followed proper procedure in issuing Environmental Disposal Systems (EDS) a final permit for the construction of a hazardous-waste treatment, storage, and disposal facility on Citrin Drive in Romulus, but the DEQ has none.

"I'm not an attorney, but I'm confident that this is a legally issued permit," said DEQ spokesperson Ken Silfven, who added that the department has been rigorous in following all guidelines and regulations regarding the permitting process.

For those who are interested, much of the rationale behind the DEQ's decision can be found in a 34-page "responsiveness summary" that the department issued along with EDS's final permit on Friday, February 23. The summary addresses a number of the concerns that were identified by members of the Site Review Board (SRB) and the public.

For instance, one accusation that was made at the final public hearing (January 17, 2001) was that the DEQ's decision to issue the permit, despite the SRB's recommendation to deny it, was

"tainted by the DEQ's bias and lack of objectivity," which supposedly led the department to present witnesses on behalf of EDS and to attempt to limit the SRB's deliberation of certain issues. In its responsiveness summary, the DEQ replied:

"The administrative record developed during the SRB process simply does not support the allegation that the DEQ lacked objectivity. The SRB decided its own timeline, the issues that it would consider, the agenda for each meeting, and who would be called to provide testimony. The written and oral testimony provided to the SRB by the DEQ was done at the request of the SRB."

In response to accusations that the DEQ "did not give the SRB adequate direction and advice," and that it had "criticized the SRB for proceeding too slowly," the department responded:

"The DEQ provided the SRB with training before its first meeting, and offered advice throughout its process. The SRB chose not to follow much of that advice and the DEQ could not force the SRB to do so. The DEQ's advice is well documented in the administrative record.

"The SRB process is designed to

provide a meaningful and objective examination of the evidence regarding a specific facility's impact on the local community. That is why the SRB is comprised of members who represent certain interests and specialties, and why they are directed to conduct hearings to receive evidence and to deliberate on the issues. Deliberation involves careful discussion and consideration of alternatives before reaching a decision, and it is only by deliberating on the issues that the SRB can support its recommendations.

"The DEQ cautioned the SRB early in the process that it was spending too much time on too few issues, hearing only one-sided testimony and not deliberating on the issues. This ultimately resulted in the SRB making a recommendation that was not supported by the record developed during its process."

Regarding the statement, "The DEQ's criticism of the objectivity of individual SRB members is not warranted," the DEQ replied:

"The criticism of the objectivity of individual SRB members comes not only from the DEQ, but also from other SRB members. This criticism is warranted, especially given statements by

continued on page 4

The Editor's Opinion

Common Sense Is Cure For EDS Hysteria

By Kristi Stephens

Environmental Disposal Systems (EDS) has finally received its permit for the construction of a hazardous-waste treatment, storage, and disposal facility in Romulus. Now, some of the project's more Machiavellian opponents are straining their imaginations as they search for new ways to scare the day-lights out of Joe Citizen and prolong a losing battle that has already cost taxpayers a million dollars. Indulging in the most monstrous hyperbole, they've begun describing the "apocalyptic" consequences of disposing of "the most hazardous wastes known to man."

Well, it's time to throw a dash of cool common sense over this ever-more-heated hysteria and, hopefully, gain a little perspective in the process.

First of all, these chemicals that are supposedly the ultimate in hazardous wastes aren't radioactive, aren't explosive, and aren't even flammable. They're so dilute that, even if a tanker of them *did* spill, the so-called "evacuation area" would probably be measured in yards, not miles. Any corner gas station has as much potential for danger as the EDS facility does! Yet I don't see anyone spending a million dollars to prevent gas stations from operating – let alone any of the *really* hazardous facilities that do business in Romulus every day.

Are you troubled by tales of pristine Michigan being inundated with a flood of Canadian waste? In 1999, Michigan accepted a total of 27,078 tons of hazardous waste from Canada. During that same year, Michigan sent 62,038 tons of it to Canada. (Funny, but I haven't heard of any local organizations protesting *that*.) And in 1998, two of the top 15 U.S. commercial hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facilities that transferred waste to Ontario were from Romulus (Michigan Recovery Systems, #6, and Safety-Kleen Systems, #13) and one was from Belleville (Michigan Disposal, #10). Guess what, folks – this stuff travels our roads and rails every day, with or without EDS!

Face it: We live in an urban area. In some ways, that's an advantage: We pay relatively low property taxes because industry shoulders the majority of the burden; most of us have jobs that are directly or indirectly related to that industry; and we have easy access to plenty of good schools, shopping, and entertainment. But every silver lining is hidden in a cloud – in this case, a cloud of waste generated by our places of employment, our beloved cars, and even our hair dyes and nail polish removers. We enjoy the benefits of urban living;

we need to accept the responsibilities that go with it, and quit our NIMBY (not in my back yard) whining.

To those of you who don't trust your government to protect you because of a history that includes the approval of DDT and Agent Orange, I say that I understand your skepticism – but, in the end, skepticism carried to an extreme is just as ridiculous as not being skeptical at all.

Do we refuse to drive to work each morning, just because someone once had a car accident? Do we refuse to plug in an electrical appliance, just because people have been known to be electrocuted? Of course not! Why? Because even though these actions involve risk, that risk is relatively low in probability, and we accept it as a necessary trade-off to maintaining our modern life-style.

Well, even though we try our best to pretend it isn't so, generating waste is another consequence of our modern life-style. Yes, as painful as it is to admit, it's not big-bad-business that's responsible for most of the waste around us, it's ordinary people living their ordinary lives. Since all that waste isn't going to go away by itself, it's up to us to see that it's disposed of as safely as possible. Given the *preponderance* of evidence regarding deep-well disposal, I'd much rather see hazardous waste injected a mile underground, with about 4,000 feet of basically impermeable rock between it and my drinking water, than to see it flushed down the sewer, directly into the Detroit River; dumped into a landfill that may seep directly into the water table; or "stored" in one of the dozens of leaky underground storage tanks (LUSTs) that are currently contaminating soil right here in Romulus at sites like Buffalo Tank on Huron River Drive. (For a real eye-opener on contaminated sites here in town, try checking out the complete LUST list at the DEQ's Web site.)

Maybe it will turn out that I'm wrong, and I'll die of cancer 24 years from now due to the perils of urban pollution. Then again, maybe I'll die 24 hours from now when the next Flight 255 lands right in the middle of my roof. Both, I suppose, are possible . . . but I'm not losing any sleep over either one.

It's time to get a grip on *reality*, folks. We're shooting ourselves in the foot on this one – wasting tax dollars that are needed elsewhere, and running to the media with exaggerated tales that may end up causing the decrease in property-values that we're supposedly so concerned about.

Enough is enough. □

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Business Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

The Romulus News (also known as "the little paper") is published biweekly by Nite-Lite Graphics, P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, Michigan 48174-0038.

Nite-Lite Graphics and The Romulus News are owned and operated by Evelyn H. Atkins.

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Letters to the Editor

Editor's note: All letters to the editor must contain the writer's signature and a telephone number where he/she can be reached in order to verify the letter's authenticity. Names will be withheld by request if, in our opinion, the letter's content merits anonymity.

The Romulus News reserves the right to edit all letters for clarity and, if necessary, brevity.

Why Wait Until Fall?

I'm a 20-year veteran of the U.S. Navy, and I do fully understand our rights. For years, I lived as what some would call a second-class citizen, ignored and used. I took the oath to defend this country and the constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic. I had my viewpoints on the various situations in which our government placed our military, but I did not express them to the general public, nor did I ask for civil disobedience because I did not agree wholeheartedly with the government's views.

As an elected official who has been empowered to look out for the citizens of our community, Councilwoman Debbie Romak should take a step back and examine her attempt to hide behind the First Amendment. As a citizen, yes, she has the right, but as an elected official, she has no right to express herself in this fashion. I feel it is time that she pulls her cranium out of [the sand] and takes a good look around the community.

1) We are paying dearly (over a million dollars in legal fees) for mismanagement of the "well" issue from the previous administration. Who is paying for this? Of course: We, the taxpayers, are footing the bill.

2) Pleas that hazardous waste trucks are not safe to travel our roads because of possible contamination make no sense. If this were a real concern, then every petroleum truck making deliveries to our local gas stations should not be allowed to travel our roads. By the same token, every aircraft taking off or landing at Metro should be grounded because of the hazardous products in the hydraulic lines and fuel cells (heaven forbid if one should crash and contaminate our soil!), and delivery trucks delivering chemicals to our manufacturers should be stopped.

Someone should get a life at this point. Romak fails to see or even realize the situation that she has placed herself in. If protesters show up at the site, she should be the one to pay for the overtime needed for our police department, not the taxpayers.

Romak does not even entertain the notion of resigning. She wants to wait till the next election and see what the voters have to say. Again, I'll make reference to the fact that she needs to relocate her cranium. Why should we, as citizens of Romulus, continue to be embarrassed by such inept behavior from someone who seems to be a self-serving person?

We, as citizens, have the right to pull a petition and gather signatures to have her removed from the Council. Why wait until fall?

Sincerely,
Todd Hauter
USN (Retired)

EPA Addresses Winona

Dear Ms. Stephens:

This letter is in response to your request made during our phone conversation on February 21, 2001, for information related to the injection wells at the American Ecology Winona, Texas Facility. This site is a former commercial hazardous waste disposal and fuel blending facility. There are two Class I hazardous waste disposal wells at the facility which are constructed to inject at a depth of just over 5200 feet. These wells are permitted by the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC), the State agency delegated the authority to administer the permitting program for hazardous waste injection wells under the Safe Drinking Water Act. Based on detailed technical reviews, EPA approved an injection well no migration petition under the land disposal restrictions in 1989 for the American Ecology facility (formerly Gibraltar Chemical Resources), and approved changes to this petition in 1996.

Currently one well is being used for the disposal of site storm water and contaminated ground water. The other well is inactive. The contaminated ground water is associated with ongoing shallow ground water remediation at the site. EPA has concluded the ground water contamination associated with this facility was caused by surface spills at the site and is not a result of the injection wells.

I am enclosing a fact sheet on EPA's 1989 approval of the no migration petition for this site which contains more details. Should you need additional information please contact me.

Sincerely yours,
Philip Dellinger
Chief
Ground Water/UIC Section

RHS Recaps 2000

Dear citizens:

Now that the year 2001 is comfortably underway, the Romulus Historical Society has had a moment to recall the events of the past year.

In July of 2000, we had our first "Cookbook Sale and Party" in the Romulus Historic Park. This was a well-attended event and fun was had by all.

In August, several members attended the War of 1812 Re-enactment held at Lake Erie Metropark. It was a day filled with historic speakers and battle re-creations. We also briefly visited the Lake Erie Marsh Museum.

During September, the Museum was open every Sunday and for extended hours on the Sunday of the Romulus Pumpkin Festival.

In December, Society members participated in the "Pet Pictures with Santa" event held at the Romulus Animal Shelter. Animal Control Officer Kim Matthews was the organizer of the event. Also in December, the Museum was open during the annual Romulus Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony. Guests enjoyed cookies, coffee, and punch.

Kathy Billings, CPA, has again assisted the Society in the filing of its annual reports to both the state and federal government. Ms. Billings is a partner in the firm of Post, Smythe, Lutz & Ziel of Wayne. The Society thanks her for her expertise in this matter.

The Romulus Historical Society is looking forward to an eventful year. We are always seeking new members who are interested in Romulus's history. Note that the Museum is open to the public on Sundays from 1 to 4 p.m. and by appointment for group tours.

Sincerely,
Pearl Varner
Director
Romulus Historical Museum □

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The Mayor's Chair

City Looks To Congress For Train Relief

By Mayor William M. Oakley, City of Romulus

In an effort to find relief from the problems of blocked grade crossings, the City of Romulus is taking its case to Congress in the form of two bills drafted and introduced by Congressman John D. Dingell. These bills (HR 432 and HR 433) call for the Secretary of Transportation to issue federal regulations addressing safety concerns associated with blocked grade crossings – and, if he doesn't, to automatically empower states and local governments with the authority to do so.

During a recent round-table discussion with government officials, including Michigan State Representative Raymond Basham, Dingell asked those in attendance to help him by providing specific examples of the problems that communities face with respect to blocked crossings. Because my administration has been hard at work to find ways to encourage the legislature to enact corrective legislation, we had already prepared a 33-page report that identified hundreds of examples of the difficulties experienced by the Romulus

Community Schools, the Romulus Fire Department, the Romulus Police Department (which, during the 25-month period preceding the recent court decision disallowing citations for blocked crossings, issued 146 tickets to CSX alone), and others. This report, using data compiled over the past 30 months, was hand-carried to the Congressman.

During his discussion, Dingell reported on the fate of an eight-year-old Delta Township boy who tragically burned to death on one side of a rail crossing while the local fire department, blocked by a sitting train, sat helplessly on the other side, unable to get to the victim. Laying the blame for the lack of a deterrent at the feet of the Secretary of Transportation, Dingell said, "He has the authority; he just hasn't used it."

Action on Dingell's bill is expected in the summer of this year.

Anyone wishing to comment on this legislation or share views and experiences related to blocked crossings is encouraged to direct letters to my office at Romulus City Hall, 11111 S. Wayne Rd., Romulus, MI 48174. All letters will be forwarded to Congressman Dingell.

DEQ Defends Decision To Issue Permit

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certain SRB members at their first meeting, before they heard or considered any testimony, that they were opposed to the project and would do everything they could to defeat it. By their own admission, these members were not objective, and that lack of objectivity set the tone for the entire process."

To the assertion, "The additional trucks carrying waste to the facility put Michigan's environment at greater risk," the DEQ stated:

"Hazardous waste is already transported safely across Michigan's roads and railways. The EDS facility will probably take some of the waste that is already generated and transported throughout Michigan. The volume of trucks may increase due to additional hazardous waste shipments from outside of Michigan, although the number of additional trucks carrying waste to the facility is indeterminable."

With regard to accusations that the DEQ "ignored the extensive written and oral testimony regarding the adverse impact of the facility on property values," the department replied:

"The DEQ does not dispute the potential for the facility to adversely impact property values in the community, but it is not the DEQ's responsibility to show whether the facility could adversely impact property values; it is the

SRB's responsibility. Unfortunately, the SRB chose to not hear the detailed testimony that was offered on the issue, and chose to not deliberate on it. . . .

"Notwithstanding the lack of a clear demonstration of how property values might be impacted, the DEQ is requiring EDS to honor its commitment to compensate residents within a one and one-half mile radius of the facility for property value losses attributable to the facility, as described in the Community Agreement, Attachment 13 to the permit."

And to the statements, "Romulus has the elements necessary to be a major economic hub in the future," and "Given the inevitable nuisances, health risks, and stigma associated with hazardous waste facilities, the EDS facility will limit the community's economic future," the DEQ replied:

"The DEQ and SRB were not presented with any credible evidence that the storage and treatment facility will limit the community's economic future. The characterization of the facility as a nuisance and health risk to the community is not supported by any evidence and only serves to perpetuate false public perceptions. Those false perceptions are a greater threat to the community's economic future."

The full text of the responsiveness summary can be found at the Romulus Public Library. □

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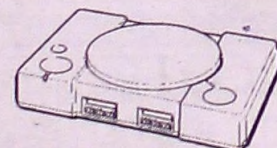
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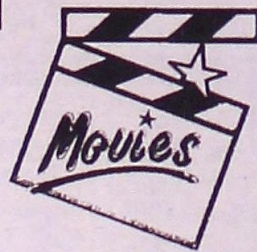


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Chamber Hosts Silent Auction & Wine Tasting Dinner



(From left) Mayor William Oakley helps Joe Kochanoski and Gil White, Jr., with a drawing.

By Jill Martin

On Thursday, February 15, the Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce sponsored its second Silent Auction & Wine Tasting Dinner. The grand event — held at the DoubleTree Hotel — was hosted by Barry J. Caplan, General Manager of the Detroit Airport DoubleTree Hotel and member of the Chamber's Executive Board. The goal for the evening was for attendees to have a good time with friends and business associates, while offering the opportunity to meet new ones through support of community businesses and the Romulus Chamber of Commerce.

Sutter Homes Winery elegantly prepared a fine complement of a three-course dinner, dessert, and wine tasting. Entrees included a petit filet served with a pine-nut borsini demi and salmon served with balsamic vinegar; also served were Yukon gold mashed potatoes with roasted asparagus and cherry tomatoes. For dessert, presenters offered a scrumptious forest berry mousse in a tulip cup.

Generous contributors donated in excess of forty items to the auction. There was something for everyone, including weekend stays (with breakfast/dinner included) at DoubleTree Suites in St. Louis and Orlando as well as the Detroit Airport Hotel.

Additional auction items included:

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- passes allowing two foursomes to enjoy 18 holes of golf at the new Gateway Golf Club in Romulus (valued at \$235 each);
- two four-packs of Red Wing tickets (valued at \$280 each), courtesy of MBM Fabricators & Erectors and EQ The Environmental Quality Company; and
- six bottles of wine, a De Walt cordless drill, a bucket of U of M golf balls, a Boyd's collectible doll, and a "Child's Push Pedal" N.Y. Checker taxi (valued at a total of more than \$700), all courtesy of International Paint Stripping, Inc.

Other local businesses making generous donations included Airlines Parking, Alert Glass, Countrywood Florist, Captain Nemo's, Dadson Electric, Landis Machine Shop, Metro Realty Group, R.J. Perry Carpentry, the Romulus Marriott Hotel, and numerous others who continually support efforts to make Romulus a better place.

Proceeds from the function will support the regular operations of the Chamber of Commerce as well as other Chamber-sponsored events such as the "Romulus Person of the Year (soon to be named) Dinner" and the annual golf outing.

Anyone who is interested in becoming a Chamber member, or participating in any of the organizations events, should contact Karan Johnson, executive secretary, at 734-326-4290.

"Remember," says Johnson, "personal involvement in the businesses and social activities of Romulus makes Romulus a better place! Continued patronage of the businesses and individuals who helped make this event (and others like it) a success will guarantee future support for our community." □

Romulus Students Excel at Solo & Ensemble Festival



Jazmine Bennett



Ryan Witherow

Students from Romulus Middle School and High School received a total of fourteen "First Division" and nine "Second Division" ratings at the recent District 12 Solo and Ensemble Festivals held at Livonia Franklin High School. High School students competed on January 27; those from the Middle School competed on February 3.

Both Mark Fernandez (Middle School band director) and Henry James (High School band director and head of the district's music department) were pleased with their students' efforts.

Festival participants included:

ROMULUS HIGH SCHOOL

"First Division" Ratings

- Shawn Phenix (alto saxophone solo);
- Ahmad Caldwell (trombone solo);
- Jonathon Wilkerson (tuba solo);
- Lauren Fox and Nichole Miller (flute duet); and
- Tiffany Burrell, LaJoya Orr, and Michael Sandusky (clarinet and flute trio).

"Second Division" Ratings

- Amy Hudson (flute solo);
- Julian Lambert (piano solo);

- Melissa Gondek (snare-drum solo);
- Kevin Zajac (snare-drum solo);
- Emily Schultz (trombone solo);
- Diana Oswald and Angela Zajac (cornet and French-horn duet); and
- Chris Berry and Angela Zajac (French-horn duet).

ROMULUS MIDDLE SCHOOL

"First Division" Ratings

- Jennifer Shelton (clarinet solo);
- Jazmine Bennett (flute solo);
- Brenden Boyd (saxophone solo);
- Jennifer Shelton and Jessica Shelton (clarinet and flute duet);
- Kathryn Appel and Tamara Carney (flute duet);
- Lindsay Green and Ashley Moss (flute duet);
- Tiarra Anderson and Andrea Redding (saxophone duet);
- Brenden Boyd and Andrea Redding (saxophone duet); and
- Monica Cox, Myleah Jones, and Monique Solomon (clarinet trio).

"Second Division" Ratings

- Ryan Witherow (cornet solo); and
- Jessica Shelton (flute solo).

(For more photos, see page 7.) □



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SODA POP



Among those Romulus High School students who earned first-division ratings at the MSBOA District 12 Solo and Ensemble Festival were (from left) Shawn Phenix, LaJoya Orr, Michael Sandusky, and Tiffany Burrell.

Music Students Excel



(From left) Jessica Shelton and Jennifer Shelton.



(From left) Andrea Redding and Tiarra Anderson.



(From left) Ashley Moss and Lindsay Green.



(From left) Andrea Redding and Brenden Boyd.



(From left) Monique Solomon, Myleah Jones, and Monica Cox.



(From left) Tamara Carney and Kathryn Appel.

Around the District



Enjoying a ceremony for first-semester honor-roll students at RMS were (from left): front – Keshia Wright, Katie Banks, and Crystal Stewart; middle – Lisa Botler, Carla Anderson, Samantha Arnett-Butcher, LeRodd Williams, and Kristen Atchley; back – James Bell, Jessica Workman, Amanda Nowicki, Jazmine Bennett, Jessica Shelton, and Kristine Plank.



Merriman Student Council members (from left) Sara Heitz, Jenni Hollingsworth, Lindsay Mitchell, and Raeshawn Lightsey, along with Student Council sponsor Yvette Austin, display a check for \$88 that was raised through the sale of tickets to two recent student dances. A total of 650 canned-good items were also collected.



Barth staffers preparing for a recent volleyball match against four teams of sixth-graders were (from left): front – John Watts, Denise Bills, and Joseph Commander Jr.; back – Sheila Stasak, Julie Kovar, Rob Baty, Lori Fritz, Diane Golka, Diane Simkiewicz, and Charles Wood. (Final results: staff – two wins; students – one win; one tie.)



Working to bring Merriman into the K-12 "Education in Philanthropy" project, which will combine service learning and social studies into unified lessons, are (from left): front – Barbara Dillbeck, Yvette Austin, Kathy Hurst, and Sharon Silveri; back – Dr. Dennis Van Haitisma, Shellie Moore, Mary Blake, Karensa Fitch, Heather Doane, and Charles Kidwell.



During its recent presentation of "Astounding Stories," the Good Time Theater Company – with actors Jason Debrowski (left), Brad Cummings, and Kim Katz – was well received by students at Merriman Elementary School, including (from left) Mercedes Williams, Alyssa Watts, Kyle Stevens, Janette Gula, and Michael St. Jacques.



Deborah Street, a first-grade teacher at Barth Elementary School, proudly shows off the "Cultural Diversity" bulletin board – appropriately titled "Beauty in Variety" – that was prepared by her students during the school's annual celebration of Black History Month/Cultural Diversity Month.

Around the District



Dr. Marlene Davis (second from right), Superintendent of the Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency (WCRESA), enjoyed her recent visit to the Romulus Community Schools, where she met with administrators (from left) William Routhier (Director of Finance), Joel R. Carr (Superintendent), and Edward Clark (Director of Human Resources).



Dr. Anthony Adams (left), a sociology professor at EMU, and Joseph Murphy (right), Middle School teacher, implemented a "mentoring" program in which EMU students such as Barbara Sweeney (second from left) and Rachel Mahan (third from right) worked with Middle School students like Jeannie Hayes (third from left) and Stacey Shreve.



These Cory kindergartners – (from left) Ciara Dawson, Larlee Cohen, Kayla Patterson, Taylor McGuire, Rachel Soard, Keith Zavitz, and Sirrena Dudash – have already passed their "DRA" test, signifying that they can read age-appropriate materials and have already met year-end goals.



(From left) Barth fourth-graders Mary Ann Watts and Samantha Watson, along with teacher Lori Fritz, proudly show off a "vivarium" (an enclosed glass tank that serves as a mini environment for living creatures) that their class acquired through various fund-raising efforts.



A recent Halecreek assembly featuring Marc Thomas (center) and his "Self-esteem and Success" musical program was enjoyed by students such as (from left) Jamie Foster, Megan Felch, Mattia Garrett, and Sentoria McMullin.



Presenters at a recent RHS "credit" seminar were (from left): front – Christie St. John, Nichole Starnes, Brittani Jackson, Brenda Finley, and Jeriesha Lee; back – Anson Long, Christopher Turner, Michael Patrias, Michael Jones, Deon Solomon, Joey Wasson, and Giovanna McGlaughlin.

Community Calendar

- **Bingo!** – The Romulus Progressive Club (11580 Ozga Road) is now hosting a "Tuesday Night Bingo" program! The weekly games start at 6:30 p.m.; finish by 10 p.m. Everyone is welcome.
- **St. Aloysius School Hosts Fish Fry Dinners** – St. Aloysius Catholic School's Fish Fry Dinners will continue each Friday through April 6 at the school (located at 37200 Neville Road, behind St. Aloysius Church). Meals – fish, cole slaw, potatoes, green beans, dessert, and beverage – are served from 4:30 to 7 p.m. or until sold out. Tickets are \$6.50 for adults; \$5.50 for senior citizens; \$3 for children under 10. For more information, please call 734-941-3340.
- **PWP Hosts "Spring Fling Dance"** – Downriver Chapter #369 of Parents Without Partners invites you to its "Spring Fling Dance," to be held at the Taylor Moose Lodge (9981 S. Telegraph Rd., between Wick and Goddard, Taylor) on Friday, March 9, at 9 p.m. (An orientation for prospective members is planned for 8 p.m.) Admission is \$5 for members; \$7 for nonmembers. Cash bar. Music provided by Sound Spectrum. For more information, contact PWP Board President George Graff at 313-388-8488.
- **Oriental Meditation/Qigong Workshop** – The public is invited to attend a free Oriental Meditation/Qigong Workshop, featuring Falun Dafa (ancient wisdom from China), at the Romulus Public Library on Saturday, March 24, from 2 to 4 p.m. For more information, call Tim Sun at 248-74FALUN; send e-mail to falun_mi@hotmail.com; or visit www.umich.edu/~falun (Michigan site) or www.falundafa.org (U.S. site).
- **Nursery Hosts Open House** – Huron Countryside Co-op Nursery's annual open house will be held on Wednesday, April 4, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and again from 5 to 7 p.m. The nursery school, open to children ages 30 months through five years, is located in St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church (19109 Craig Street, New Boston). For information, call 734-941-3527, or visit www.huroncountrysideco-op.org.
- **The Mayor's Chair** – The next edition of the monthly *Mayor's Chair* program will air on cable channel 12 beginning at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 12. Anyone who would like to be present when the program is taped must be seated in the Council Chambers at Romulus City Hall (11111 S. Wayne Rd., at Goddard) by 6:15 p.m. Beginning at 6 p.m., home viewers can ask questions of the Mayor and his guests by calling 734-942-7571.
- **In-Balance Center Hosts Annual Herb Conference** – The In-Balance Center's annual Herb Conference will be held at the Romulus Marriott (30559 Flynn Drive) on Saturday, April 28, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Guest speaker will be Dr. Jack Ritchason, who will discuss "Nature's Sunshine Products – Herbs and Your Health." Tickets are \$40 (nonrefundable). Deadline for registration is April 18. For information, call 734-941-8778.
- **Historical Society Welcomes New Members** – The Romulus Historical Society meets at 7 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month (next meeting on March 21) at the Romulus Historical Museum (on Hunt St. next to the Post Office). New members are welcome.
- **Historical Museum Open to Visitors** – The Romulus Historical Museum, located on Hunt Street next to the Post Office in downtown Romulus, is open to the public each Sunday (except major holidays) from 1 to 4 p.m. Admission is free.
- **RHS Class of 1981 To Host 20-year Reunion** – Romulus High School's Class of 1981 is in the process of planning its 20-year reunion. Any alumni interested in attending the event or becoming part of the planning committee are asked to contact Shona Silvey-Baum at 313-999-0016 or Lisa Riopelle at 313-492-7031.
- **Ecorse High's Class of 1971 Plans 30-year Reunion** – Ecorse High School's Class of 1971 is planning a 30-year reunion for August 25, 2001, and is asking alumni to contact any of the following people for information/suggestions about the event, or to report the location of "lost classmates": Kristal Beckham Boddie (248-351-2916; after 6 p.m.); Melanie Dawson Colbert (248-788-3845; after 6 p.m.); Beverly Vaughn Cooper (313-381-5759; anytime); Daisy Williams (313-383-3049; after 6 p.m.); or Rosemary Mazon (313-273-4248; after 3 p.m.).

To place information in our next issue's Community Calendar, mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174-0038; FAX it to us at 941-4874; or call 941-1907 or 941-3113

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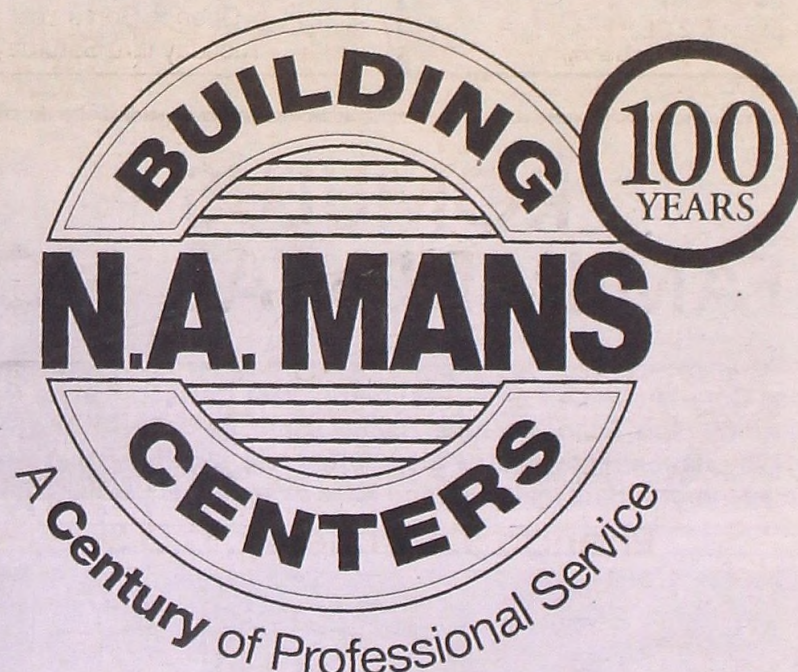
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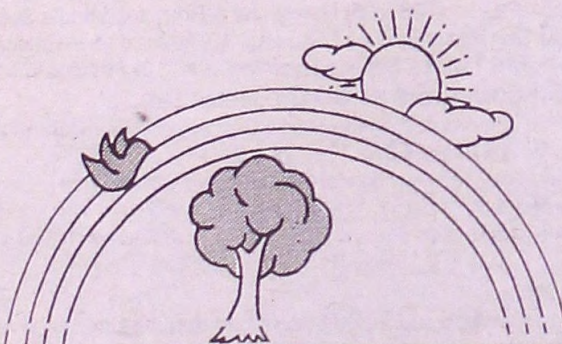
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Recreation News

Thanks to Debbie Dick, Director, City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation, and Keith Brothers, Recreation Coordinator, for supplying information for the "Recreation News" column.

Unless otherwise noted, registration for the following programs should be made at the Romulus Recreation Center (36515 Bibbins) during its regular hours (weekdays, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.). For more information, stop in at the Center or call 734-942-6852.

Summer Softball

The Romulus Recreation Department is now accepting registrations for the ISA Summer Softball program, with play in the following divisions:

- Mon./Wed. Men's White (eight teams/21 games/two umpires; six-home-runs-per-team limit; \$575 per team);
- Mon./Wed. Women's White (eight teams/14 games/one umpire; unlimited home runs; \$375 per team);
- Fri. Men's Red/Competitive (eight teams/14 games/two umpires; six-home-runs-per-team limit; \$475 per team);
- Fri. Men's Blue/Recreational (eight teams/14 games/two umpires; four-home-runs-per-team limit; \$475 per team); and
- Sun. Men's White/Doubleheaders (10 teams/18 games/two umpires; five-home-runs-per-team limit; \$500 per team).

The deadline for registration is Friday, April 6.

Scorekeepers Wanted

The Romulus Recreation Department is looking to hire adult softball scorekeepers for its upcoming summer softball season. League play starts at the end of April and finishes in mid August. Games are scheduled on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings and Sunday afternoons. Pay is \$7 per game; there are three to four games each day.

Anyone interested in this job should pick up an application at the Personnel Office in Romulus City Hall.

Girls' Fast-pitch

Local girls between the ages of nine and 12 are invited to sign up for the Romulus Little League's spring/summer fast-pitch program. Practices will begin in April; play will begin in May and continue through the end of June.

Registrations are being accepted at the Romulus Recreation office on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4 to 7 p.m. Sign up now!

For information, call 734-955-6204.

Little League Sign-up

Romulus Little League will accept registrations for its baseball and softball programs (T-ball through Big League) at the Romulus Recreation Center on the following dates: Saturday, March 17 (12 to 4 p.m.), and Friday, March 23 (5 to 9 p.m.).

Parent or guardian *must* bring the following items to register: proof of Romulus residence, *original* birth certificate (no copies accepted), and registration fee (\$35 per player/\$50 per family). An additional \$50 per player must be prepaid by those who do not wish to sell two boxes of candy.

Preschool Gymnastics

The next eight-week session of preschool gymnastics classes begins on March 20. Classes will be held at the Recreation Center each Tuesday from 6 to 6:45 p.m. Cost is \$50. Preregistration is required.

Gymnastics

The next eight-week session of gymnastics classes for ages six and up begins March 20. Classes will be held at the Recreation Center each Tuesday from 7:30 to 8:15 p.m. Cost is \$50. Preregistration is required.

Clogging

Openings still remain for the 10-week session of clogging classes that began March 5. The Monday-night classes are held at Cory Elementary from 6 to 7 p.m. for beginners, and from 7 to 8 p.m. for advanced students. Cost is \$20. Preregistration is required.

Kickboxing

The next seven-week kickboxing program April 3 and continues through May 17 (no class on April 17). The Tuesday/Thursday classes will be held at Romulus High School from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$35 for one day per week or \$50 for two. Preregistration is required.

Karate

The next 10-week karate program for ages seven and up will begin in May. The Monday/Wednesday classes will be held at Romulus High School from 6:30 to 7:30 for beginners, and from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. for advanced students. Cost is \$30 for one student, \$55 for two family members, or \$75 for the family plan. Preregistration is required.

Quilters Welcome!

The Romulus Recreation Department is inviting all quilters and "quilter wannabes" to drop in at the Center on Thursday evenings from 7 to 9 p.m. There is no charge to participate. ☐

Merriman School Students Do Mitten Tree for Helping Hands

By Kathy Hurst

Students in the classes of Amy Kapala and Connie Watkins organized and ran a holiday mitten tree as a service-learning project with the help of Pat Massad, school social worker. The classes collected mittens, gloves, hats, scarves, and socks from staff, students, and parents. They also submitted a donation request to the Meijer Thrifty Acres in Taylor, soliciting a \$30 gift certificate from the store. Still another event was a raffle that ran during each lunch period for two weeks. (For each quarter that a student donated, he or she got to choose a paper ornament to write his or her name on. A drawing was held at the end of the day for each lunch period, and prizes were given to the winning students.) Altogether, the raffle raised \$375.

When all of the activities had been concluded, the money and collected items were donated to the Helping Hand Thrift Shop in Romulus.

The classroom that had the greatest percentage of students who donated items and the classroom that donated the most quarters in the raffle were awarded pizza parties. Robbie Orme's second-grade class won first prize, with 100% student participation and the most quarters donated. Amy Kapala's class came in second with 100% student participation, but declined the prize because they had run the raffle. Dee Raub's fourth grade and Michele DeLeo's fifth grade tied for second place.

Merriman's students, parents, and staff are to be commended for their considerable generosity and support. □

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Merriman students worked hard to collect mittens, gloves, hats, scarves, and socks for the Helping Hand Thrift Shop.

ROMULUS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

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REGULAR MEETING, FEBRUARY 12, 2001

The Regular Meeting of the Romulus Board of Education held on Monday, February 12, 2001, was called to order by Mr. Michael D. Woods, President, at 6:30 P.M.

Roll call showed member Debbie Dick absent (excused). All administrators were present. Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Woods.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

2/01/1 Moved by Lambert supported by Berlinn to approve the Agenda as presented. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

2/01/2 Moved by Berlinn supported by Lenossi to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 22, 2001, and the Study Session of January 30, 2001, as presented. Ayes: 5. Nays: 0. Abstain: 1 (Webb). Motion carried.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Personnel Actions

Mr. Edward Clark, Director of Human Resources, offered the following personnel actions for Board approval.

EMPLOYMENT: Ryan Wilson, Science Teacher, Middle School, Effective January 23, 2001.

RESIGNATION: Dawn Gable, Tech Aide, High School, Effective February 1, 2001.

2/01/3 Moved by Lambert supported by Lenossi to approve the employment of Ryan Wilson as presented by Mr. Edward Clark. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

2/01/4 Moved by Berlinn supported by Lambert to approve the resignation of Dawn Gable as recommended by Mr. Edward Clark. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Bills for Payment

2/01/5 Moved by Berlinn supported by Lambert to approve the Bills for Payment as submitted by Mr. William Routhier, Director of Business and Operations. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Meeting Change

2/01/6 Moved by Berlinn supported by Lambert to move the Regular Meeting of February 26, 2001, to Tuesday, February 27, 2001, at 6:00 P.M. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Property Acquisition

2/01/7 Moved by McCraight supported by Webb that the Board of Education adopt the attached resolution to purchase 1.8 acres of property adjacent to Romulus High School from McKinley properties for the sum of \$180,000. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Curriculum Presentation – Speech Therapists

Mesdames Royal, Soltesz, Oz, Smith, Robinson, Denham, and Brady were present to update the Board of Education on our speech program. They also responded to questions posed by various members of the Board.

Lacrosse Team

2/01/8 Moved by Lenossi supported by Lambert that the Board of Education accept the recommendation of the Athletic Department and High School administration to begin a

competitive lacrosse program (males and females included). Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Wide Area Network – Contract Award

2/01/9 Moved by McCraight supported by Lenossi that the Board of Education accept the recommendation of the Technology Committee, Construction Manager, and Administration to award a contract to Advanced Communications, Inc., not to exceed \$590,900, to install a wide area network among the Romulus Schools. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Construction Update

The Board was provided with a construction overview from Mr. Todd Ketola and Mr. Kevin Waldman of Barton Malow Design/Construction Services with regard to the new elementary school, Romulus High School, and technology.

Communications and Expressions from the Public

Mr. Richard Coate addressed the Board of Education on behalf of the volleyball team.

Items of Interest from the Superintendent

Mr. Joel R. Carr, Superintendent, shared the following items of interest with members of the Board of Education: 1) Newsletter – The Merriman Star; 2) Newsletter – Wick Elementary; 3) Newsbrief – Middle Cities; 4) Romulus/Van Buren News Flash; 5) Paine Weber Incorporated – Official Statement, 1/16/2001; 6) Golden Apple Award and Governor's Cup Award; 7) Thank You – FISH – RESA; 8) Newsletter – Romulus Middle School; 9) Harvard Education Letter – The Benefits of Service Learning; 10) Newsletter – Halecreek Elementary School; 11) Memo – Kathy Hurst – Service Learning; and 12) Finance Committee.

QUESTIONS AND/OR CONCERNS OF BOARD MEMBERS:

Mrs. Betty Lenossi commented on the Magic Carpet program at Barth and the WCASB meeting on February 3, 2001, at RESA.

Mr. Kenneth Berlinn gave an overview of the Midwinter Conference in Lansing that he and Mr. Billy McCraight attended.

Mr. Alan Lambert addressed the controversy in promotions. It will be discussed in Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

2/01/10 Moved by Webb supported by Lambert that the Board convene in Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters. Roll call vote showed: Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The Board convened in Executive Session at 7:45 P.M. and reconvened in Regular Session at 8:18 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT:

2/01/11 Moved by Berlinn supported by McCraight that the meeting be adjourned. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Eva W. Webb, Secretary
Romulus Board of Education

Another 'Fish!' Story

Romulus School District's Maintenance Staff Enjoys Motivational Program

Employees of the Romulus Community Schools' Maintenance Department are the latest group of staff members to take part in the district's *Fish!* motivational program.

"Our *Fish!* philosophy is spreading like wildfire!" says an enthusiastic Carole Bales, who coordinates the program for the district. The executive secretary to Superintendent Joel R. Carr works with fellow staffers such as Ellen Bragg, Louise Briody, Connie Knight, Sheila Morgan, Robin Omev, and Lorraine Wilkerson to stage motivational presentations that are as creative and fun as they are informative.

According to Bales, the *Fish!* philosophy originated at a seafood market

in Seattle, where employees came to realize that it was their *attitude* about their jobs, not the jobs themselves, that determined whether or not their day-to-day work experience was pleasant and rewarding.

"Together, we're learning that following a few simple principles can make an enormous difference," she explains. "Choosing your attitude, giving those you work with your full attention, going out of your way to make someone else's day ... these are all ways to make work a truly enjoyable experience. By having fun, sharing ideas, and getting our creative juices flowing using the *Fish!* philosophy, we're striving to make our already excellent district even better!"



(From left) front row – Connie Nowland, Nellie Chadwick, Brenda Brazynetz, Diane Barwikowski, and Julius Nathaniel; back row – Vern Omev, Pat Sprinkle, Gloria Harven, Sandy Savage, and Marsha Greca.



(From left) front row – Ida Watson, Susie Knight, Lori Good, Jean Voight, Bev Baker, Alvin Dupree, and Donna Navalta; back row – Carol Plave, Karen Kendrick, Sandy Rakoczy, Morris Smith, Carol Tackett, Gloria Swanson, Pamela Kuderick, Donzella Williams, and Ella Coleman.



(From left) front row – Chris Weimer, Brian Bedell, Matt McGrane, Don Matheny, and Sue Eastman; back row – Don Makowski, Leo O'Connor, Dale Gotts, Bill Garland, Socrates McCraight, David Issacs, John DeForrest, and Gale Henry.



(From left) front – June Nathaniel; second row – Mary Slawinski, Kim Meyers, Alice Clubb, and Doris Lipford; back row – Irene Patterson, Kim Hoover-George, James Sparagowski, Martin Henison, and Jamis Davis.



In keeping with the "make someone's day" tenet of the *Fish!* philosophy, (from left) Don Makowski, Beverly Baker, Mary Slawinski, and Jean Voight were treated to a ceremony in honor of their recent birthdays.

Sassy Seniors

By Mary E. Clark

Special thanks to Linda Norman, Senior Citizens Program Coordinator for the City of Romulus, and Melissa Morton, Manager of the Romulus Tower, for contributing information to this issue's "Sassy Seniors" column.

(For more information about events at the Romulus Senior Center, located at 36515 Bibbins in the downtown area, call 734-942-6852.)

Free Tax Preparation

Now through mid April, volunteers from the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) will be available (by appointment only) at the Romulus Senior Center each Wednesday from 12:30 to 3 p.m. to assist low- and moderate-income Romulus seniors with the preparation of their Federal and State 1040 forms, as well as those for home-stead property taxes, home-heating credits, and prescription credits.

A list of materials which must be brought to the appointment will be provided at the time of registration.

Note: Romulus City Treasurer Pam Kersey also offers free tax-preparation services for seniors on Wednesdays and Fridays from 1 to 5 p.m. To make an appointment, call 734-942-7580.

Euchre Begins Again!

The Center's weekly euchre game has resumed! Play is set for Mondays at 1 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

Seniors First Ride a Success!

Twelve-year Romulus Tower resident Mildred Qualls was delighted with her new mobility when she joined eight fellow residents a few weeks ago to take the first bus trip to an area grocery store since the closing of the Romulus IGA. Seniors, accustomed to walking to the local store, had worried that the IGA's closing would leave them with no way to get groceries and medicine on a regular basis.

"I'm thrilled," Qualls said after returning from her first trip. "I really appreciate it when someone does something nice for me. . . . I'm very thankful."

Also taking the trip was 72-year-old resident Millie Campbell, who reported that the experience put to rest her fears that she would not have a way to visit local stores.

Shortly after hearing that some seniors would be stranded without transportation for grocery shopping, the City put together plans for the weekly trip. Because the program is so new, a few bugs still have to be worked out, but Linda Norman, Program Coordinator, says that all will soon be smooth sailing.

"We know that we may have to change some things so that we don't conflict with our current schedule. I don't want people to miss out on activities because they need groceries," she explained. "We will be constantly looking to see where and how we can improve service."

Anyone wishing to take advantage of the program are invited to call the Center during normal business hours. The weekly bus leaves Romulus at 9:30 a.m. and begins the journey back to town at about 1 p.m. Round-trip fare is just \$1.50 per person.

TeleCare Program Available

The Romulus Senior Center's Tele-Care program provides seniors with daily phone reassurance at no cost. To learn more, call the Center's friendly staff.

Haircuts

The Romulus Senior Center's next haircut date is set for Monday, March 19, beginning at 9 a.m. If you would like to take advantage of this affordable (\$5) program, call the Center to make an appointment.

Note: All haircut clients are asked to wash their hair before coming to their appointment, as the Center does not have the facilities.

Outside Chore Service

Area young people doing community-service work are available to perform outside chores for local senior citizens. To make arrangements to receive this service, call the Center.

Hot Lunch

For just \$1.75, Romulus seniors (age 60 and over) can enjoy a hot lunch at the Center any weekday at 11:30 a.m. Call at least 24 hours in advance to make your reservation.

Crime Watch

The Romulus Police Department's Crime Prevention Officer, Damian Hull, will be at the Romulus Senior Center from 10 to 11 a.m. on Thursday, March 22, for the Center's monthly Crime Watch program. New faces always welcome.

Special Trips

Seniors interested in more information about these or other special trips that have been planned by the Romulus Senior Center should call Linda Norman at 734-942-6852.

- **Casino Windsor**
(March 29; \$5)
- **Motor City Casino**
(April 4; \$4)
- **Sauder Farm & Village**
(May 25; \$59)
- **Washington D.C. & Gettysburg**
(June 17-23; \$699) □

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT FORM

If you are a resident of Romulus, *The Romulus News* will be happy to print an announcement of your new addition (child or grandchild). If possible, please enclose a photograph of your new arrival. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

THE ROMULUS NEWS

P.O. Box 74038
Romulus, Michigan 48174-0038

Baby's Name _____
Birthdate _____ Time _____
Weight _____ Length _____
Birthplace _____
Parents _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Siblings _____

Maternal Grandparents _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Paternal Grandparents _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Name and phone number of person to contact (in case of questions): _____

Attach any additional information concerning the birth to this form.

ENGAGEMENT/WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT FORM

If you, or your parents, are residents of Romulus, *The Romulus News* will be happy to print an announcement of your engagement or wedding. If possible, please enclose a photograph. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

THE ROMULUS NEWS

P.O. Box 74038
Romulus, Michigan 48174-0038

Bride's Name _____
City _____ State _____
Groom's Name _____
City _____ State _____
Bride's Parents _____
City _____ State _____
Groom's Parents _____
City _____ State _____
Bridesmaids _____
Groomsmen _____
Date of Engagement _____
Date of Wedding _____
Place _____
City _____ State _____
Reception _____
City _____ State _____
Name and phone number of person to contact (in case of questions): _____

Attach any additional information concerning the wedding or engagement to this form.

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Obituaries

Erik James Brock

Erik James Brock died on Tuesday, February 20, 2001, at the age of 22.

The second of two children, Erik was born to Frank II and Louvenia Brock on March 21, 1978. He attended Romulus Community Schools from the age of five until his graduation from Romulus High School in 1996. In 1997, Erik joined the U.S. Army. His six-month tour of duty in Egypt brought him closer to God and to the Red Sea, where his faith in the power of God was realized.

Surviving Erik are his parents, Frank and Louvenia Brock; his brother, Frank Brock III; five uncles, James (Marlene) Thomason, Larry (Valorie) Brock, Walter

Thomason, Reginald (Barbara) Thomason, and Patrick (Betty) Thomason; four aunts, Barbara Thomason, Mildred Reeves, Carolyn Brock, and Gwendolyn (James) Thomas; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Among those who predeceased him were his paternal and maternal grandparents, Frank and Virginia Brock and James and Evelyn Thomason.

A funeral service was held on Monday, February 26, at Penn Funeral Home (Inkster, MI), with Captain Jeff Walden, Army Chaplain, officiating.

Burial was at Romulus Memorial Cemetery (Romulus, MI).

Duwayne Martin

Duwayne Martin of Romulus, Michigan, died on Wednesday, February 21, 2001. He was 68 years old.

Born in Detroit, Michigan, on Thursday, April 14, 1932, Duwayne graduated from Romulus High School in 1951. His impressive career of work and volunteerism included 37 years with the State of Michigan's Department of Mental Health; four years as the Director of

Recreation for the City of Romulus; Chairmanship of the Mayor's Drug Task Force; Vice-chairmanship of the Romulus Historical Commission; moderation of the *Mayor's Chair* talk show; organization/leadership of a Boy Scouts of America troop; and service on the City of Romulus's Planning Commission, Board of Review, and Mayor's Advisory Committee.

Duwayne is survived by his wife, Elizabeth "Bettye" Martin; two sons, Gary D. (Oklahoma City, OK) and Kevin D. Martin (Belleville, MI); and one granddaughter, Nia Martin.

Among those who predeceased him was a brother, William Williams, Jr.

A funeral service was held on Saturday, February 24, at First Baptist Church (Romulus), with the Reverend Charles P. Woolridge officiating.

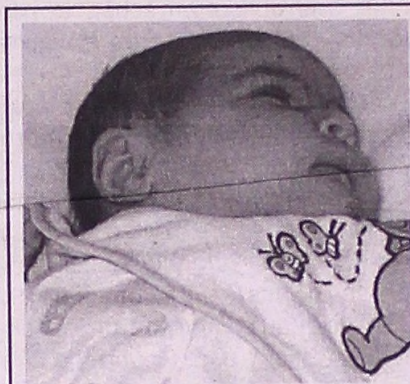
Burial was at Romulus Memorial Cemetery.

Arrangements were made by Crane Funeral Home (Romulus).

Memorial tributes may be made to the First Baptist Church of Romulus Scholarship Fund or to the American Heart or Lung associations. □

The Stork Arrived

Emily Jade Twitchell



Emily Jade Twitchell

Proudly announcing the birth of their daughter, Emily Jade Twitchell, are Derek and Lara Twitchell of Huntington Beach, California.

Emily was born on Saturday, January 20, 2001, weighing in at 8 pounds, 8 ounces.

Dale and Pat Twitchell are Emily's paternal grandparents; her maternal grandparents are Robert and Josie Gutierrez. Emily's paternal and maternal great-grandmothers are Alice Twitchell and Genevieve Dugan, respectively. □

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The Stork Arrived

Mason Quade Robbins

Todd and Deanna Robbins of Romulus, Michigan, are proud to announce the birth of their new son, Mason Quade Robbins.

Weighing 9 pounds, 5 ounces, and measuring 22 inches in length, Mason was born in Riverside Osteopathic Hospital (Trenton, MI) at 11:54 a.m. on Friday, January 26, 2001.

Especially excited about the new arrival were his three big brothers – Tyler (age 6), Colton (4½), and Bryce (2½) – as well as "special cousin" Zachary Dague (2).

Also welcoming Mason into the family were his paternal grandmother, Shirley Robbins (Romulus); his maternal grandparents, Danny Dague (Romulus) and Delon and Sue Fowler



Mason Quade Robbins

(Mio, MI); and his paternal great-grandparents, Hank and Joyce Tkachuk (Romulus, MI). □



Big brothers Tyler, Colton, and Bryce Robbins.

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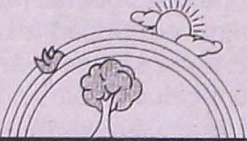
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